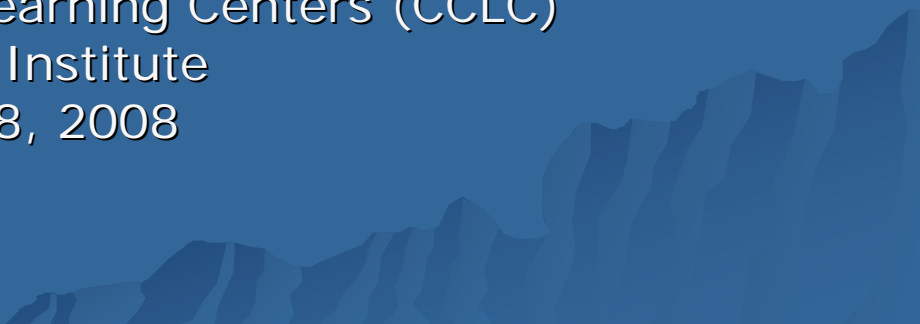


# Panel ~ Lessons Learned

21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC)  
New Cohort Institute  
October 7-8, 2008

A stylized, dark blue mountain range graphic is located in the bottom right corner of the slide, extending from the bottom edge towards the right edge.

# Lessons Learned

**Susan Dandridge**

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Better understanding of the federal and state expectations of the program

Understanding of the grant's budget and the purchasing procedures for fiscal agent

The importance of ongoing documentation and evaluation requirements

Understanding and expectations of being a TEAM LEADER of a diverse group of educators and community partners

Need to become familiar with available community resources to be able to substitute activities when necessary

# Lessons Learned

**John Alexander**

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The impact this program would have on building secretary's time...we did not foresee this.

The specific procedures for purchasing and budget management

We did not plan for enough planning time to get the program up and running...we felt rushed.

Set aside time to plan and then set aside more time to critique what you planned.

Be prepared to assist your secretary when you have to cancel an after-school session due to the weather.

Only recruit and keep positive staff...we have great staff and that makes the program fly.

# Lessons Learned

**Matthew Milovich**

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Greater familiarity with NCLB and 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC in general including "education-speak" acronyms, etc.

A clearer understanding of the role and responsibilities of the school district in relation to a community based center.

Read your grant application--read it again.....Know what you said you would do and do it!

If possible, hire teachers for your program; preferably from your the school(s) served by the grant.

When in doubt, SHOUT! Don't hesitate to contact your Education Specialist at VDOE.

# Lessons Learned

**Jacob (Jake) Wilson** [jacob.wilson@nn.k12.va.us](mailto:jacob.wilson@nn.k12.va.us)  
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Staff selection is a key piece of early program implementation. In a school based program you sometimes have to look outside of the school staff for support.

Student transportation has to be secured and communicated to all parents.

Collaboration and meetings with the school staff must occur to assure buy in by everyone. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Programs are targeted interventions designed to help the whole school succeed.

All components of the program may not start at once. Phase in activities and partners, so that each item is well grounded in the overall project as it is introduced.

Getting student commitments to participate can be difficult, and getting students to have regular attendance is challenging.

Engagement of regular day teachers influences student participation and parental support for the programs.